

**To the praise of his glory,
in Christ we have hope!**

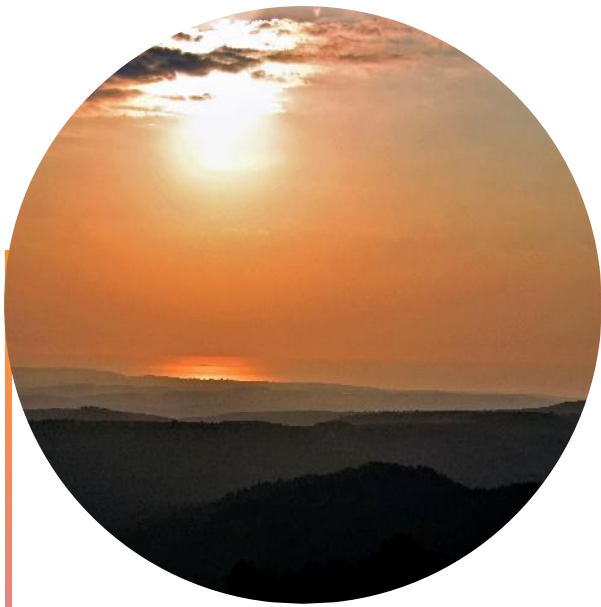
"Go up now, look toward the sea. . . ."
1Kg 18:43-44



UNPACKING EPH. 1:11-14

ALL THINGS 'IN HIM'

In Him
Inheritance
Salvation
Predestined
Purpose
Hope in Christ
Promised Holy Spirit
To the praise of his glory



INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S STUDY 1 OF 4

Unpacking Ephesians 1:11-14

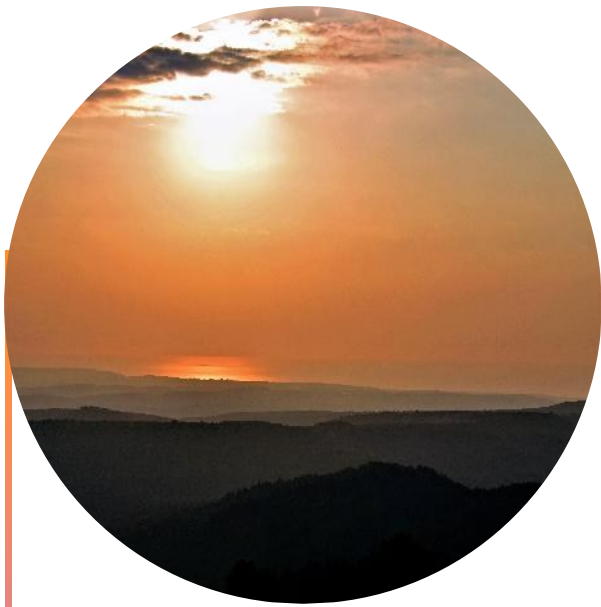
COD 07/23/26

Introduction:

For the past 5 weeks we have endeavored to study the treasure trove of Truth found in just the first 14 verses of Ephesians 1.

- Those Truths are known as “Identity Truths”.
- In just the first 14 verses of Ephesians 1, there are 12 Identity Truths declared! Yet, there are still 38 more Identity Truths in the remaining passages in Ephesians. A priceless encouragement of our standing in Christ!
- Today we will take a closer look at some of those truths.

A handout of those Identity Truths is available at the back counter if interested



INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S STUDY 2 OF 4

Unpacking Ephesians 1:11-14

COD 07/23/26

Introduction:

- Identity Truths are invaluable in confirming one's "Position" before God.
- However, in chapter 10 of **Disciplined by Grace**, by J.F. Strombeck, he uses a different term than "Position", which to me is helpful. He asserts that as one professes, by grace through faith (Eph.2:8-9), and accepts the completed work of Christ, his "Standing" is eternally established before God Almighty.
- And as we will see next week in Eph.1:18, our identity as a saint is confirmed, However, we still reside in a sin proficient body, and our "State" can be found walking in darkness and out of harmony with Christ who is the light. (1 Jn.1:5-10)



INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S STUDY 3 OF 4

Unpacking Ephesians 1:11-14

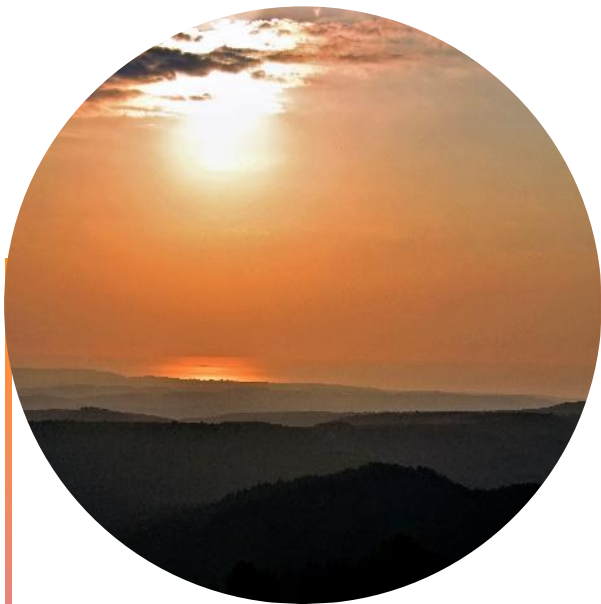
Introduction:

Yes, we are saints, but we need to be humble saints since we still sin and walk in darkness. Yet, our compassionate savior, Jesus Christ, is willing and gracious to hear our confessions. (1 Jn. 1:5-10)

So, in terms of one's salvation, a believer's "**Standing**" or "**Position**" before God is eternally established in Christ before God. Yet when our "**state**" or "**condition**" is not in harmony with Christ we walk in darkness; however, our "**Standing**" was eternally established and cannot change.

Today, I want to share how I personally view these Truths. But I urge you to take up the nobility of the Bereans in Acts 17:11 and search the scriptures daily to see if what I say is true. I am not a heretic but I may on occasion speak heresy <20% I pray! 😄 🙌

If interested, a handout excerpt of Strombeck's chapter 10 is available at the back counter.



INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S STUDY 4 OF 4

A short review of God's Sovereignty

What are some important attributes that characterize the Sovereignty of God?

Here are 4 characteristics that are most important to me:

(from Ps. 139; 2 Pe.3:9)

Omniscience

Omnipresence

Omnipotence

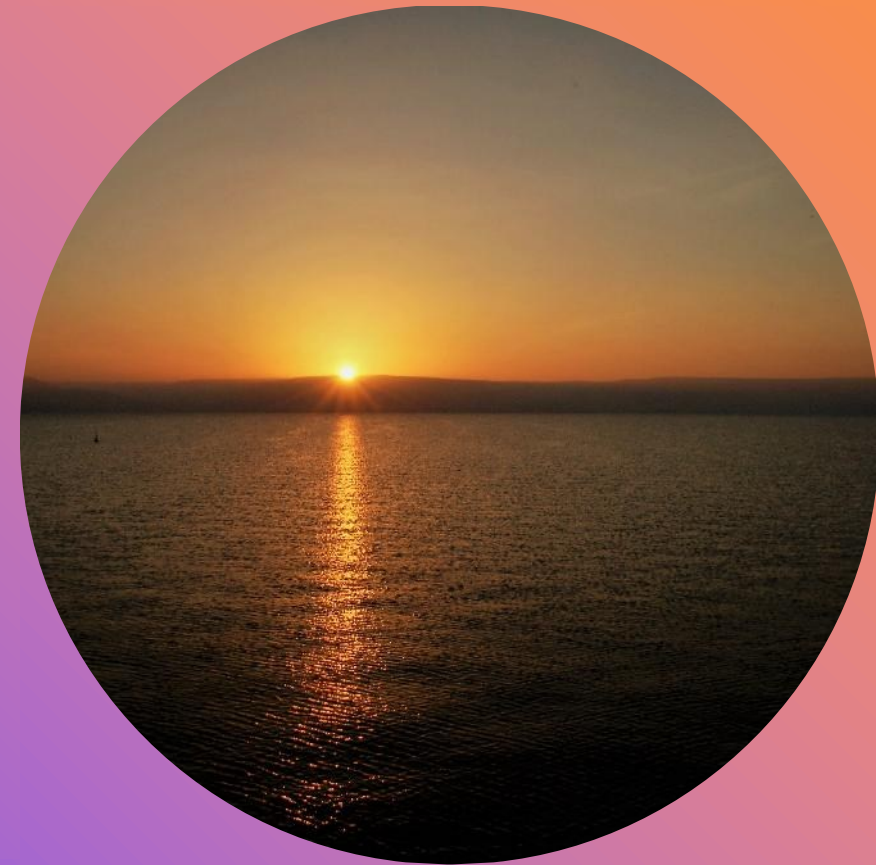
Compassionate & Loving

Based upon those attributes, do you think God would intervene in anyway that would prevent someone from ever exercising their choice to come to faith in Christ?

With those thoughts forming our mindset, lets look at today's passage.

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,¹² so that we who were the first to ***hope in Christ*** might be to the praise of his glory.¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your ***salvation***, and believed in him, were ***sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,***¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, ***to the praise of his glory.***

*As sure as the sunrises,
the Son has risen!
Therefore, we have been
made His inheritance!*



IN HIM

Ephesians 1:11 (ESV)

¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,

Important to note: This is a major theme in Ephesians – “In Him” and “in Christ”

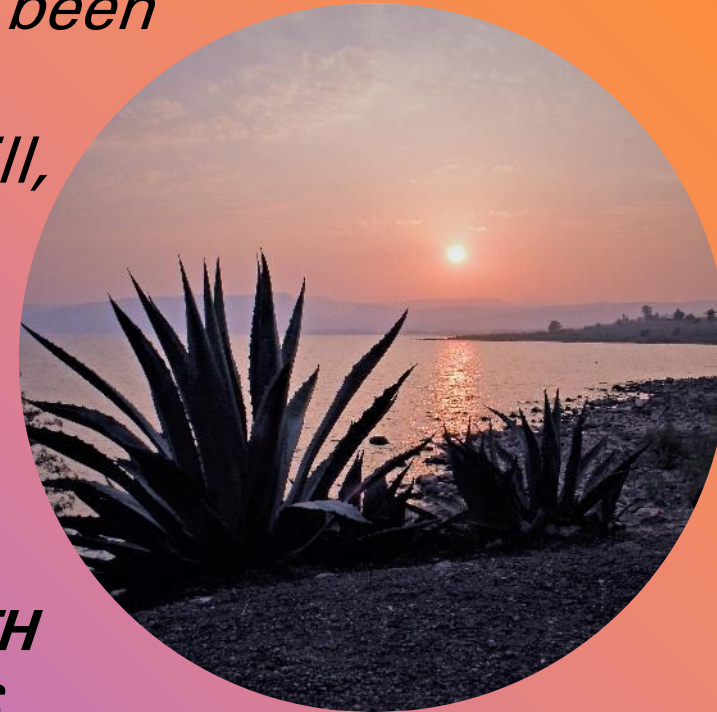
“In Him” ~21x & “In Christ” ~10x in ESV

IDENTITY TRUTHS STEM FROM EPHESIANS 1:3 (ESV)

³ BLESSED BE THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO HAS BLESSED US IN CHRIST WITH EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES, EACH IDENTITY TRUTH IS MANIFESTED THROUGH THOSE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN CHRIST!

ALL THINGS IN CHRIST -> Jn.1:1-5; Col.1:15-17

*As sure as the sun sets
over Capernum
Christ is the one who redeems!*



INHERITANCE

Ephesians 1:11 (ESV)

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,

***Whose inheritance is it?
What is it that is inherited?
How is the inheritance appropriated?***

*As sure as the sun rises over
the Golan Heights,
we have been made His
inheritance!*



SALVATION

Ephesians 1:13 (ESV)

¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were ...

How would you describe salvation as used here? Elsewhere?

SALVATION—This word is used of the deliverance of the Israelites from the Egyptians ([Ex. 14:13](#)), and of deliverance generally from evil or danger. In the New Testament it is specially used with reference to the great deliverance from the guilt and the pollution of sin wrought out by Jesus Christ, “the great salvation” ([Heb. 2:3](#)). [[Easton's Bible Dictionary](#)]

As sure as the sun rises over the Galilee, our salvation is assured in Christ



PREDESTINED

Ephesians 1:11 (ESV)

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,

I believe it is important to remember that God has always been the initiator! Before anyone existed much less had choices, He predestined a plan of salvation, in Christ, according to the counsel of his will.

Let us Consider Psalm 139; 2 Pe.3:9

*As sure as the sunrises,
the Son has risen, just as
God predestined in His plan of
salvation!*



PREDESTINED CHOICES

“Now everybody finds the doctrine of election difficult. ‘Didn’t I choose God?’ somebody asks indignantly; to which we must answer ‘Yes, indeed you did, and freely, but only because in eternity God had first chosen you.’

‘Didn’t I decide for Christ?’ asks somebody else; to which we must reply ‘Yes, indeed you did, and freely, but only because in eternity God had first decided for you.’” [John Stott]

Tom Constable, (Galaxie Software, 2003), Eph 1:4.

“If God had not chosen them, they would never have chosen God.” [John Eadie]

Tom Constable, (Galaxie Software, 2003), Eph 1:4.

***As sure as the sunrises,
the Son has risen, just as
God predestined in His plan
of salvation!***





PREDESTINED IS A BLESSING!

“A further blessing is predestination: that action of God in which He decides from eternity what will happen (Rm 8:29–30; 1Co 2:7; Ac 4:28). Saying **He predestined us** (EP.1:5) is nearly the same as saying He chose us.

From eternity, predestination's goal was that we would be adopted as sons (Rm 8:29; Gl 3:26) when we believe (cf. 1Jn 3:1).”

Gerald W. Peterman, in The Moody Bible Commentary, ed. Michael A. Rydelnik and Michael Vanlaningham (Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2014), 1847.

PREDESTINED AS FOUND IN ROMANS

Romans 8:29–30 (ESV)

²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

“His foreknowledge is not simply a prognostication (a bare, passive knowledge of what will happen next—for which see the human forecasting in Ac 26:5; 2Pt 3:17), but a causative, determinative foreknowing, where His foreknowledge brings about what is foreknown.”*

*Michael A. Rydelnik and Michael Vanlaningham (Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2014), 1758.

PREDESTINED

MOODY BIBLE COMMENTARY

More from Romans 8:29-30

*“Predestined means “to decide upon beforehand,” “to predetermine.” Foreknew emphasizes God’s initial decision to embrace a specific believer, but predestined refers to the final eternal goal of His active foreknowledge, namely, believers being conformed to the image of His Son on their way to their eternal “destination” (as in “pre-destination”).”**

Why not be as the Berean’s were, examining daily the scriptures to see if what Paul said was so (Acts 17:11)?

Perhaps you can start with some of these passages:

Jn.1:13; Ro.9:11;10:1-3; Tit.3:5; 1Pe.1:3, 20-21; Ja.1:18; Phil.2:13; Ps.1:6; Jer.1:5; 2Tim.2:9; 2Pe.3:9; Rev.13:8; Col.1:15-18

*Michael A. Rydelnik and Michael Vanlaningham (Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2014), 1758.

PURPOSE

Ephesians 1:11 (ESV)

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,

My favorite passage in the scriptures that clearly states God's purpose is Romans 8:28-30. To me, it is God's mission and purpose statement for all who love God.

Let's take a quick look again at that passage.

*As sure as the sunrises,
the Son has risen, just as
God predestined in His
plan of salvation!*





PURPOSE AS STATED IN ROMANS 8:28-30

Romans 8:28–30 (ESV)

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

If indeed, God is Sovereign, does He not have the right to certainly define and declare his purposes?



HOPE IN CHRIST

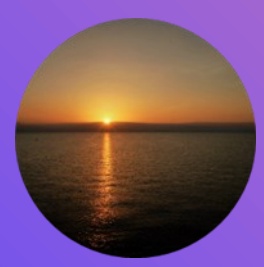
Ephesians 1:12-13 (ESV)

¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,

Notice that 'we who were the first' refers to the Jews who were the first one's to 'hope in Christ'. (Ro. 1:16)

In verse ¹³ we see the evidence of the Gentile inclusion, 'In him, you also' who after hearing, believing the gospel, were sealed, and consequently were included as children of God.

This Identity Truth is titled 'I am included' a powerful encouragement to believers!



SEALED WITH THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT

Ephesians 1:12-13 (ESV)

¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,

***This Identity Truth is another action by the promised Holy Spirit: - When I hear the gospel of salvation and believe –
I am sealed with the promised Holy Spirit***

2 Timothy 2:19 (ESV)

¹⁹ But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."



PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT

Ephesians 1:13b-14 (ESV)

13b . . . sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

3 times a person of the Trinity calls 'to the praise of his glory'

- vv4-6 praise the Father chose us in eternity past.
- vv7-11 praise the Son has redeemed us at the Cross
- vv12-14 praise the H.S. has sealed us when we believed

For me, God's attributes are clearly revealed in the Identity Truths declared in this passage.

His Sovereign plans are orchestrated through the perfection of His attributes such as Omniscience, Omnipresence, Omnipotence, Compassion and Love